



NEWS RELEASE

Media Contact:

Ricardo Santiago
Public Information Officer
213-257-2000
RSantiago@da.lacounty.gov
Twitter: @LADAOOffice

March 1, 2017

Man Sentenced for Sexually Assaulting, Kidnapping 2-Year-Old from Gardena Car Wash

A Torrance man was sentenced today to 55 years to life in state prison for sexually assaulting a 2-year-old girl after kidnapping her from a car wash in Gardena, the Los Angeles County District Attorney's Office announced.

Michael David Ikeler, 38, was found guilty by a jury on Jan. 27 of lewd act upon a child under the age of 14 with a special allegation that the crime was committed during the course of a kidnapping and two counts of sexual penetration of a child under age 10.

Deputy District Attorney Allyson Ostrowski said Ikeler also was ordered to registered as a sex offender for the rest of his life.

On April 2, 2015, a woman was washing her vehicle at a car wash on Western Avenue while her two daughters waited outside of the car. According to court testimony, the older daughter notified her mother that the 2-year old had disappeared.

The young victim was found naked, hours later sitting on the ground by herself near a garbage dumpster at a Cudahy restaurant parking lot, the prosecutor said.

Case YA092277 was investigated by the Gardena Police Department.

[About the Los Angeles County District Attorney's Office](#)

Los Angeles County District Attorney Jackie Lacey leads the largest local prosecutorial office in the nation. Her staff of nearly 1,000 attorneys, 300 investigators and 800 support staff members is dedicated to protecting our community through the fair and ethical pursuit of justice and the safeguarding of crime victims' rights.